

The Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Previously Presented): A cartridge containing one or more beverage ingredients and being formed from substantially air- and water-impermeable materials, said cartridge comprising a storage chamber containing the one or more beverage ingredients, the cartridge further comprising a filter disposed between the storage chamber and at least a part of an undersurface of a top of the cartridge, one or more passages being formed between the filter and the top of the cartridge, which one or more passages communicate with an outlet of the cartridge on an opposite side of the filter from the top of the cartridge via an exit path separated from the storage chamber, whereby a beverage flow path linking one or more inlets to the outlet passes upwardly through the filter into the one or more passages, wherein the cartridge has a disc-shaped outer member having a central axis and a hollow inwardly directed and closed cylindrical extension centered on the central axis, and the aspect ratio of the vertical height of the storage chamber to the breadth of the storage chamber is between 0.10 and 0.43.

Claim 2 (Original): A cartridge as claimed in claim 1 wherein the aspect ratio of the vertical height of the storage chamber to the breadth of the storage chamber is 0.21 to 0.28.

Claim 3 (Original): A cartridge as claimed in claim 2 wherein the aspect ratio is approximately 0.25.

Claims 4 and 5 (Cancelled).

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Claim 6 (Previously Presented): A cartridge as claimed in claim 3 wherein the one or more inlets are directed radially into the storage chamber.

Claim 7 (Original): A cartridge as claimed in claim 6 wherein the one or more inlets are arranged at or near the periphery of the cartridge to direct flow of an aqueous medium radially inwards into the storage chamber.

Claim 8 (Cancelled).

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): A cartridge as claimed in claim 1 wherein the beverage ingredient is roast and ground coffee.

Claims 10-13 (Cancelled).

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): A cartridge as claimed in claim 1 wherein a circumferential manifold substantially surrounds the storage chamber, the manifold having a plurality of inlets permitting flow from the manifold into the storage chamber.

Claims 15-17 (Cancelled).

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): A cartridge as claimed in claim 1 wherein the exit path is at least partially through a discharge spout.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): A cartridge as claimed in claim 49 18 wherein the discharge spout is coaxial with the cylindrical extension.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): A cartridge as claimed in claim 19 wherein the discharge spout has a portion surrounded by the storage chamber.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): A cartridge containing one or more beverage ingredients and being formed from substantially air- and water-impermeable materials, said cartridge comprising a storage chamber containing the one or more beverage ingredients, the cartridge further comprising a filter disposed between the storage chamber and at least a part of an undersurface of a top of the cartridge, one or more passages being formed between the filter and the top of the cartridge, which one or more passages communicate with an outlet of the cartridge whereby a beverage flow path linking one or more inlets to the outlet passes upwardly through the filter into the one or more passages, wherein the cartridge has a disc-shaped outer member having a central axis and a hollow inwardly directed and closed cylindrical extension centered on the central axis, and the aspect ratio of the vertical height of the storage chamber to the breadth of the storage chamber is between 0.10 and 0.43, and a circumferential manifold surrounding the storage chamber, the manifold having a plurality of inlets permitting flow from the manifold into the storage chamber.